

OCA 2613-88

## OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS

### Routing Slip

	ACTION	INFO
1. D/OCA		
2. DD/Legislation		X
		X
3. DD/Senate Affairs		X
4. Ch/Senate Affairs		DD
5. DD/House Affairs		X
6. Ch/House Affairs		
7. Admin Officer		
8. FOIA Officer		
9. Constituent Inquiries Officer		
10. GAO - <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	XX	
11.		
12.		

SUSPENSE

29 AUG 88  
Date

Action Officer:

DD

Remarks:

EJ

22 AUG 88

Name/Date



United States  
General Accounting Office  
Washington, D.C. 20548

National Security and  
International Affairs Division

OCA FILE

GAO/CA

August 1, 1988

The Honorable William H. Webster  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency

Attention: Director, External Affairs

Dear Mr. Webster:

On October 21, 1988, we advised you that the Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa requested that we review the activities of SAFAIR Freighter, Ltd. (a South African company) and its affiliates with regard to the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 (PL 99-440 of October 2, 1986). On March 4, 1988, your representatives advised us that the CIA would not discuss this issue with us and referred us to the Departments of State and Defense.

The enclosures to this letter are excerpts from our draft report which provide our understanding of the CIA position on this matter. We are requesting that you review the enclosures and provide us any comments you might have. Mr. Stewart L. Tomlinson, Group Director, is responsible for this assignment. He or members of his staff are available, if needed, to discuss the draft report. They can be reached on 695-1713.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Frank C. Conahan".

Frank C. Conahan  
Assistant Comptroller General

Enclosure - 2

in the SAFAIR/Southern Air Relationship

In early 1987, a news report linked the SAFAIR/Southern Air relationship to an alleged Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) plan to provide covert assistance to the Nicaraguan resistance. We found no evidence to support the allegation that the South African or U.S. government was involved in initiating, facilitating, directing, or controlling this relationship. Southern Air's President denied the allegation. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs and the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs both denied having any knowledge of governmental involvement in the SAFAIR/Southern Air relationship. The CIA refused to discuss the issue of SAFAIR and the implementation of the Anti-Apartheid Act, referring discussion of the issue to the Departments of State and Defense.

During our review, we examined the executive branch's implementation of the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 in relation to SAFAIR and its affiliates. We performed our review at the Departments of State, Defense, Commerce, and Transportation; FAA; Military Airlift Command headquarters, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois; and Kelly Air Force Base, Texas. We interviewed agency officials and examined files at various locations. At our request, U.S. embassy personnel in South Africa interviewed SAFAIR personnel and collected information on SAFAIR and the South African government. We also interviewed officials of Lockheed Corporation, Southern Air Transport and its legal counsel (Beckman and Kirstein Associates), the New Jersey Secretary of State's office, the International Civil Aviation Organization, and the International Air Transportation Association. We requested but were denied access to CIA personnel and information. We conducted our review from October 1987 to April 1988 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.